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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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LABOR'S GOAL!
To Repeal
Taft-Hartley Law

WHOLE NO. 1949 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1948 — GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer — VOL. 38, NO. 33

LABOR DAY MESSAGE

The following statement by the President must be held in confidence until release. Release is for all regular editions of newspapers appearing on the street not earlier than 6 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, Saturday, September 4, 1948.

PLEASE GUARD AGAINST PREMATURE PUBLICATION

By HARRY S. TRUMAN
President of the United States

The fourth Labor Day since the war affords us an opportunity to pay tribute to the achievements of American labor in the tremendous task of reconverting our economy to a peacetime basis.

The skill and energy of American workers have played a major part in the national effort which has resulted in today's all-time high records in employment, production, income and profits.

Despite great stresses and strains, in general we have succeeded in working as a team. Labor, agriculture and business have all worked to boost our national production and our standard of living.

Free collective bargaining and our free enterprise economy have proved their strength during these trying years and the production of American workers has helped to make our Nation the cornerstone in international efforts to bring about world recovery and prosperity and a lasting peace. American labor has never wavered in its support of our bipartisan effort to win peace by aiding other nations in their effort toward industrial recovery.

Our goal now is to continue to increase our production and our standard of living.

Equally important, we must improve the fairness of the distribution of the fruits of our labor.

Our American way of life is the best way of life in the world. But we can and must improve it. Some workers see their actual earnings reduced, despite pay increases, by the rising tide of inflation. We must act to end this economic dislocation. We must curb inflation before it leads us to economic disaster.

Some workers lack the protection of a decent minimum wage. We must relieve such injustice and increase the minimum wage level from 40 cents an hour to at least 75 cents an hour.

Too many workers lack the protection of adequate social security and a national health insurance program. We must provide this security for them.

All American workers lack the services which should and could be provided by an integrated Department of Labor provided with adequate staff and adequate funds. This situation must be remedied.

Finally, there is at present on the statute books a law which unfairly restricts labor unions and their members. It should be repealed.

Better legislation on labor-management relations is an absolute necessity in the program to increase our economic strength and to improve our national standard of living.

This year labor, always interested in good government, is making great efforts to get out the vote in November. It is to be hoped that every eligible voter—not just the customary minority of those eligible—will go to the polls and register an opinion on what course the United States should take in the days ahead. Then, the outcome will be the decision of all America.

Labor was in the forefront when our democracy was challenged on the battlefield and in the factory. We all know that labor will be in the forefront in meeting the challenge of today's peacetime problems to that same democracy.

Housing Starts Decline In Face of High Prices

Washington.—The number of new homes started and the number of permits issued for future building dropped in July, according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Thus, while reports show that the dollar valuation of new construction has reached record heights, the physical volume of new housing being put under construction is shrinking.

BLS figures placed the total number of housing starts during the month at 94,000, below June levels by 2,000 units, and 3,000 under the month of May when 97,000 homes were started to set the record for 1948.

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"Duplicating last year's performance, the city of Los Angeles issued more permits during the first 7 months of the year than any other city in the country. New York City repeated in second place. Three Texas cities (Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio) were among the leading 10 in both 1948 and 1947."

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New Secretary of Labor

Maurice J. Tobin, accompanied by Mrs. Tobin, takes the oath of office as Secretary of Labor from Federal Judge Edward Curran.

Tobin Says Labor Dept. Must Be Rebuilt; Praises Support Given By Trades Unions

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin declared that the damage done to the Labor Department by the 80th Congress "can and must be repaired if the department is to carry out its full duties and responsibilities to the wage earners and all the people."

Mr. Tobin's statement was included in an address to a group of Labor Department after he took the oath of office from Federal Judge Edward Curran.

Praising employes of the department for the manner in which they had stuck to their task of serving the working people of the nation in spite of the obstacles placed in their path, the new Labor Secretary referred to the job of rebuilding the department. He said:

"That is the task to which we must dedicate ourselves. It offers not only the opportunity to meet a vital need, but will be a challenge to our best efforts.

"The labor movement, which was responsible for the creation of the Department of Labor to give the workers a direct voice in their government, is giving us their continued support and cooperation. I am confident we will merit that continued support and cooperation.

"In accepting the post of Secretary of Labor, I was impelled by the opportunity which it would afford me to work for the vital program which President Truman has developed and advocated for the continued improvement of the rights and welfare of the nation's wage earners.

"I believe this program is necessary if we are to remain strong and prosperous and exert our full influence for world peace.

"I believe we must continue to maintain free unions and free collective bargaining in this country in order to preserve our democratic processes and free, competitive enterprise.

"I expect very shortly to fill the vacancies that exist in the department so that we will be operating with a full team. With a full team, we will carry out the mandate given the department in the act which created it, to 'foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States, to improve their working conditions, and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment'."

AFL Textile Union Raps Congress For Failure on Housing, Inflation

Washington—Lashing out at the special session of Congress for its failure to produce any constructive legislation to meet the inflationary danger and the housing emergency, the International Executive Council of the AFL's United Textile Workers of America called upon its members and the American people to repudiate reactionary members of Congress and "to elect enlightened, liberal Congressmen" in the election of 1948.

The UTW called upon all its officers and members to register and vote and get out the vote of all their families, friends and relatives. It declared that "the hope of the American people for avoidance of economic hardship and disaster and for liberal legislation lies in a liberal Congress."

The report to the UTW Executive Council on the organization's union shop elections indicated that the union had won every single union shop election in which it had been involved thus far. Since the union's biennial convention in March, 93 percent of the workers involved in UTW union shop elections have voted for the union shop.

In its resolution on inflation, the UTW council voiced its anxiety that "controls be adopted, so as to avoid the need for more wage demands, running a 'rat race' with price increases and adding up to more inflation." It charged that the legislation passed by Congress provided "little hope" that the inflationary spiral would be flattened out. The UTW also attacked what it described as the "phony housing bill" passed by the special session and declared that this bill "does not meet the needs of our times." It stated that a "decent" housing bill can be expected only if a "decent Congress" is elected in November.

TOP AFL LEADERS SERVE ON SAFETY COMMITTEES

Washington. — AFL leaders were named to important committee posts for the President's Conference on Industrial Safety to be held here in September.

On the top coordinating committee is AFL President William Green. In Mr. Green's absence, James A. Brownlow, secretary-treasurer of the AFL Metal Trades Department, will serve as alternate committee member.

Martin P. Durkin, president of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry, is vice-chairman of the committee on programs and services.

William Gomberg, director of the management engineering department of the AFL's International Ladies Garment Workers Union, is vice-chairman of the committee on accident record, analysis, and use.

The September conference will be followed by a national general conference to be held in the spring of 1949.

MARION HEDGES TO AID ECA LABOR ADVISORS

Washington.—Appointment of Marion H. Hedges as a special assistant to the labor advisors of the Economic Cooperation Administration was announced here. His duties will include the preparation and presentation of data on ECA and its programs to American workers and those in participating countries.

Hedges was a deputy delegate and labor advisor at the first International Labor Conference in which the United States took part, in Geneva in 1935. He later attended similar conferences in this country and abroad. He was the first chief of the labor information service of the Social Security Board and was a member of the planning committee of the War Production Board. He is a graduate of DePauw University and holds a master's degree from Harvard University.

NEW YORK AFL PRINTERS SIGN PACT HIKING PAY $9

New York City.—AFL printers here ratified a new contract with publishers of 12 daily newspapers providing a $9 weekly wage hike and the maximum union security possible under restrictions imposed by the Taft-Hartley law.

The union's action paved the way for the official signing of the agreement which was finally reached after 6 months of negotiations. The contract will run for 13½ months and covers approximately 2,500 of the 9,000 members of Local 6 of the International Typographical Union.

Laurence H. Victory, president of the local, said that the union would seek similar contracts with other publications not represented by the Publishers Association of New York City.

Note to Editors

We have been informed that the Labor Day statement issued by the Labor Department and published in the August 6 edition of the AFL Weekly News Service has been approved by the newly appointed Secretary of Labor, Maurice J. Tobin.

In view of this fact, it is suggested that the statement be run in all special Labor Day editions under Mr. Tobin's name.

Green Hits 'Red' Spy Scare; Says 80th Congress Failed

AFL Leader Suspicious Of Motives Behind Commie Probes

Cleveland.—AFL President William Green declared that the "glaring failure of the 80th Congress to take any action to protect the human needs of the American people" is being overshadowed, perhaps intentionally, by the Communist spy scare stirred up by the House un-American Affairs Committee.

In an address before the biennial convention of the AFL's International Association of Theatrical Stage Employes, Mr. Green attacked the special session of Congress which, he said, "scarcely pretended to do anything about high prices and housing shortages," and "crassly ignored many other acute issues."

Discussing the commotion raised by headlines concerning Communist spy rings operating within government circles, the AFL leader said:

"We cannot help suspecting that it was with the purpose of covering up these shocking failures that congressional investigating committees suddenly launched public hearings into alleged Soviet contamination of our government's own employes in espionage efforts.

"It may be that a few comparatively minor federal government employes betrayed their country and gave or sold secret information to Soviet Russia. If these charges are true and can be sustained in court, the culprits should be promptly prosecuted and punished to the limit.

"The American Federation of Labor, which has consistently and uncompromisingly opposed Communism with more vigor and more effectiveness than any other national organization, believes further that every effort should be made to root out Communists from the public service and to assure the full loyalty of all those on the government's payrolls.

"But, as President Truman and General Eisenhower have emphasized in public statements, there is no cause for public hysteria with regard to disloyalty and spy scares. In my considered judgment, a far greater menace today than espionage is the drive of the Communists to convert the nation's workers and underprivileged minority groups to their cause. If Congress is sincerely anxious to stop the spread of Communism, it should concentrate on improving the conditions that make for Communism.

"Here we are, three years after the end of the war, in the midst of a runaway boom which, in the opinion of even the most conservative economists, can end only in a disastrous crash.

"Those of us who remember the economic collapse of 1929 and the vast suffering which followed in its wake, cannot view such a prospect with equanimity. We cannot see how a Congress even faintly conscious of its responsibility to the American people would fail to heed the danger signals and act to protect the welfare of the American people.

"Yet Congress has failed—and the only ones who can draw any comfort from that failure are Stalin and his colleagues in the Kremlin. They are counting upon a crash in America to destroy our efforts to prevent the spread of Communist imperialism and to preserve world peace."

Warning that it is the real hope of the Comunists that the 80th Congress be returned to power, Mr. Green emphasized the importance of union activity to see to it that every union member, his family, and friends registers and votes this year. He said:

"We must not forget that the 80th Congress was elected in 1946 by only one-third of the qualified voters in this country. The other two-thirds stayed home. If we can get them all out to the polls this year, we can bring about the defeat of those who stand in the way of American progress and the election of a new Congress more responsive to the needs of the American people."

AFL Executive Council Mapping Election Plans

Chicago.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor opened its midsummer meeting here Aug. 23 to draft plans for the coming political campaign and to formulate its report to the forthcoming 67th annual convention of the AFL.

Members of the Administrative Committee of Labor's League for Political Education were to meet with the executive council to map out an intensified program of political action.

Plans call for a nationwide drive to get out the labor vote with the objective of defeating large numbers of members of Congress who voted for the Taft-Hartley Act and bringing about the election of Representatives and Senators with more progressive views.

The executive council will review the "do-nothing" record of the 80th Congress with regard to social justice legislation and compare the platform promises of the Democratic and Republican parties with the AFL's own legislative proposals.

Among the outstanding issues to be considered by the executive council are the need for safeguarding world peace through international agreements, the national defense program, the failure of Congress to take effective action to halt inflation, the accumulating evidence that the Taft-Hartley Act must be repealed to save the labor movement from eventual disintegration and the urgent need for an effective housing program.

As usual, the executive council will conduct various hearings during its session. One of the subjects to be taken up is an application for an international union charter for aluminum workers.

It is also expected that the executive council will consider plans for an expanded public relations program by the AFL, including the filming of a movie for general circulation on the story of organized labor and its achievements in this country.

Randolph Says ITU Will Press Fight; Convention Set to Blast Taft's Action

Milwaukee.—The 90th convention of the AFL's International Typographical Union opened here with a firm resolve expressed by its president, Woodruff Randolph, to continue its hard fight against unfair employers seeking to take advantage of the restrictive provisions of the Taft-Hartley law.

Approximately 400 delegates heard Mr. Randolph declare in his keynote address that, if necessary, "strikes and lockouts now in progress" would continue "regardless of size or place, and regardless of time or expenditure."

Mr. Randolph said the union obtained acceptable contracts in New York, Detroit and Chicago commercial shops "only after the ITU had demonstrated that it would and could support local unions such as Chicago and other places that were striking for wages."

"We can supply an unfair employer with enough competition of various kinds to make his unfair operation much less profitable than he calculated when he dispensed with our members," he declared.

"That does not necessarily mean that we will start a newspaper in every jurisdiction where we have a strike or lockout, but it does mean that we can supply the mechanical equipment and the mechanical know-how for the operation of another newspaper where other business men would like to enter the field."

Mr. Randolph said the current strike against Chicago newspapers that began last November had cost $2,471,538 in benefit payments to members up to July 20, or about $434,000 a month. These and expenses of other strikes are financed by assessments of 5 percent of the earnings of working members.

Since the inception of a job-shop strike in Philadelphia, Mr. Randolph said, the union has spent $741,518 for benefits in that city.

He added that the ITU spent $254,350 for benefits in a commercial shop strike in New York City, ended some time ago.

In other action, a resolution was introduced to the convention condemning Senator Robert A. Taft for his recent intervention in legal affairs concerning the union and newspaper publishers. Mr. Taft, it was reported, called for action by government officials to bring contempt of court action against the ITU. At a meeting in his office, attended by Chicago newspaper publishers, the Senator informed NLRB officials that he thought the union should be cited for violations of the injunction against the union handed down last March by Federal Judge Luther M. Swygert.

Pressure for the contempt action has come mainly from Chicago where the newspaper printers have been on strike for nearly 9 months.

ITU's Closed Shop Demand Held Violation of T-H Law

Washington.—Efforts of the AFL's International Typographical Union and its officers to obtain closed shop conditions of employment for its members were held to be violations of the Taft-Hartley law by Arthur Leff, trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board.

At the same time, Mr. Leff declared that there was not sufficient evidence to sustain charges against the union on a half-dozen other counts.

The examiner's report was handed down in a national case brought against the union by the American Newspaper Publishers Association. The report was the fourth issued by NLRB examiners with findings adverse to the union, none of which has been acted upon as yet by the board itself. There are 7 other cases still pending against the union.

Gerhard P. Van Arkel, counsel for the ITU, attacked the differing conclusions reached by Mr. Leff and other NLRB examiners in additional cases based upon similar allegations and evidence. He said:

"Each of these reports has, in most important respects, reached differing and conflicting conclusions.

"It is typical of the confusion bred by the Taft-Hartley Act that no two examiners can agree on its meaning or on the legality of the policies followed by the ITU."

Mr. Leff declared that Robert N. Denham, general counsel for the NLRB, failed to sustain his charges that the union violated the law with respect to "featherbedding," slow-downs, insistence on competency clauses as a basis for hiring, jurisdiction over varitype equipment, picket line clauses, demands for the right to refuse to handle "struck work" and coercion of employes by refusal to bargain.

The examiner recommended that the union and its agents be required to cease "any policy, practice, or course of conduct" designed to cause "employers in the newspaper industry, or any other employers" to discriminate in employment against employes or applicants for employment because they were not members of the ITU or any of its locals.

Included in the conduct which he would forbid was the union's insistence upon the hiring of only union members as foremen and the union's demand for contracts that could be canceled on 60 days' notice. The examiner held that both these demands were part of the union's effort to maintain illegal closed-shop conditions.

IBEW LOCAL AFFILIATE SWEEPS UNION SHOP POLLS

New York.—Local No. 3, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL, has won its first 50 elections under the National Labor Relations Board for union security. The votes have been almost 99 percent in favor of the union shop, according to Harry Van Arsdale, Jr., Local No. 3's business manager.

Out of 3,602 votes cast, the total for union security was 3,532 with 70 voting against. In 27 out of the 50 elections won by Local No. 3, not a single vote was cast against the union shop.

LETTER CARRIERS' UNION BUYS $300,000 IN BONDS

Washington.—The National Association of Letter Carriers announced the purchase of $300,000 worth of Series G U. S. savings bonds during the first half of July.

The transaction, authorized by William C. Doherty, NALC president, was made under a special Treasury Department ruling which permitted purchases of bonds in excess of the normal monthly limit.

The purchase increased the holdings of the union's Mutual Benefit Association to $3,410,000 worth of government securities.

ILGWU RADIO STATION AIDED ELECTION DRIVE

Chattanooga, Tenn.—A radio station owned and operated here by the AFL's International Ladies Garment Workers Union played a big part in labor's successful campaign in the recent primary elections in Tennessee.

Long before the election took place and right up to the time the polls were opened, Station WVUN-FM devoted time for the broadcasting of political rallies sponsored by AFL labor organizations, and appealed to the people of the state to pay their poll taxes and qualify to vote.

That the efforts of WVUN and labor in general helped nominate Estes Kefauver for the Senate, and Dayton Phillips for the House, was attested to by none other than E. H. Crump, Memphis political boss, whose candidates were defeated. Speaking of Kefauver's victory, Crump said, "It is obvious that labor had a field day."

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"I expect very shortly to fill the vacancies that exist in the department so that we will be operating with a full team. With a full team, we will carry out the mandate given the department in the act which created it, to 'foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States, to improve their working conditions, and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment'."

AFL Textile Union Raps Congress For Failure on Housing, Inflation

Washington—Lashing out at the special session of Congress for its failure to produce any constructive legislation to meet the inflationary danger and the housing emergency, the International Executive Council of the AFL's United Textile Workers of America called upon its members and the American people to repudiate reactionary members of Congress and "to elect enlightened, liberal Congressmen" in the election of 1948.

The UTW called upon all its officers and members to register and vote and get out the vote of all their families, friends and relatives. It declared that "the hope of the American people for avoidance of economic hardship and disaster and for liberal legislation lies in a liberal Congress."

The report to the UTW Executive Council on the organization's union shop elections indicated that the union had won every single union shop election in which it had been involved thus far. Since the union's biennial convention in March, 93 percent of the workers involved in UTW union shop elections have voted for the union shop.

In its resolution on inflation, the UTW council voiced its anxiety that "controls be adopted, so as to avoid the need for more wage demands, running a 'rat race' with price increases and adding up to more inflation." It charged that the legislation passed by Congress provided "little hope" that the inflationary spiral would be flattened out. The UTW also attacked what it described as the "phony housing bill" passed by the special session and declared that this bill "does not meet the needs of our times." It stated that a "decent" housing bill can be expected only if a "decent Congress" is elected in November.

TOP AFL LEADERS SERVE ON SAFETY COMMITTEES

Washington. — AFL leaders were named to important committee posts for the President's Conference on Industrial Safety to be held here in September.

On the top coordinating committee is AFL President William Green. In Mr. Green's absence, James A. Brownlow, secretary-treasurer of the AFL Metal Trades Department, will serve as alternate committee member.

Martin P. Durkin, president of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry, is vice-chairman of the committee on programs and services.

William Gomberg, director of the management engineering department of the AFL's International Ladies Garment Workers Union, is vice-chairman of the committee on accident accord, analysis, and use.

The September conference will be followed by a national general conference to be held in the spring of 1949.

MARION HEDGES TO AID ECA LABOR ADVISORS

Washington.—Appointment of Marion H. Hedges as a special assistant to the labor advisors of the Economic Cooperation Administration was announced here. His duties will include the preparation and presentation of data on ECA and its programs to American workers and those in participating countries.

Hedges was a deputy delegate and labor advisor at the first International Labor Conference in which the United States took part, in Geneva in 1935. He later attended similar conferences in this country and abroad. He was the first chief of the labor information service of the Social Security Board and was a member of the planning committee of the War Production Board. He is a graduate of DePauw University and holds a master's degree from Harvard University.

NEW YORK AFL PRINTERS SIGN PACT HIKING PAY $9

New York City.—AFL printers here ratified a new contract with publishers of 12 daily newspapers providing a $9 weekly wage hike and the maximum union security possible under restrictions imposed by the Taft-Hartley law.

The union's action paved the way for the official signing of the agreement which was finally reached after 6 months of negotiations. The contract will run for 13½ months and covers approximately 2,500 of the 9,000 members of Local 6 of the International Typographical Union.

Laurence H. Victory, president of the local, said that the union would seek similar contracts with other publications not represented by the Publishers Association of New York City.

Note to Editors

We have been informed that the Labor Day statement issued by the Labor Department and published in the August 6 edition of the AFL Weekly News Service has been approved by the newly appointed Secretary of Labor, Maurice J. Tobin.

In view of this fact, it is suggested that the statement be run in all special Labor Day editions under Mr. Tobin's name.

Green Hits 'Red' Spy Scare; Says 80th Congress Failed

AFL Leader Suspicious Of Motives Behind Commie Probes

Cleveland.—AFL President William Green declared that the "glaring failure of the 80th Congress to take any action to protect the human needs of the American people" is being overshadowed, perhaps intentionally, by the Communist spy scare stirred up by the House un-American Affairs Committee.

In an address before the biennial convention of the AFL's International Association of Theatrical Stage Employes, Mr. Green attacked the special session of Congress which, he said, "scarcely pretended to do anything about high prices and housing shortages," and "crassly ignored many other acute issues."

Discussing the commotion raised by headlines concerning Communist spy rings operating within government circles, the AFL leader said:

"We cannot help suspecting that it was with the purpose of covering up these shocking failures that congressional investigating committees suddenly launched public hearings into alleged Soviet contamination of our government's own employes in espionage efforts.

"It may be that a few comparatively minor federal government employes betrayed their country and gave or sold secret information to Soviet Russia. If these charges are true and can be sustained in court, the culprits should be promptly prosecuted and punished to the limit.

"The American Federation of Labor, which has consistently and uncompromisingly opposed Communism with more vigor and more effectiveness than any other national organization, believes further that every effort should be made to root out Communists from the public service and to assure the full loyalty of all those on the government's payrolls.

"But, as President Truman and General Eisenhower have emphasized in public statements, there is no cause for public hysteria with regard to disloyalty and spy scares. In my considered judgment, a far greater menace today than espionage is the drive of the Communists to convert the nation's workers and underprivileged minority groups to their cause. If Congress is sincerely anxious to stop the spread of Communism, it should concentrate on improving the conditions that make for Communism.

"Here we are, three years after the end of the war, in the midst of a runaway boom which, in the opinion of even the most conservative economists, can end only in a disastrous crash.

"Those of us who remember the economic collapse of 1929 and the vast suffering which followed in its wake, cannot view such a prospect with equanimity. We cannot see how a Congress even faintly conscious of its responsibility to the American people would fail to heed the danger signals and act to protect the welfare of the American people.

"Yet Congress has failed—and the only ones who can draw any comfort from that failure are Stalin and his colleagues in the Kremlin. They are counting upon a crash in America to destroy our efforts to prevent the spread of Communist imperialism and to preserve world peace."

Warning that it is the real hope of the Comunists that the 80th Congress be returned to power, Mr. Green emphasized the importance of union activity to see to it that every union member, his family, and friends registers and votes this year. He said:

"We must not forget that the 80th Congress was elected in 1946 by only one-third of the qualified voters in this country. The other two-thirds stayed home. If we can get them all out to the polls this year, we can bring about the defeat of those who stand in the way of American progress and the election of a new Congress more responsive to the needs of the American people."

AFL Executive Council Mapping Election Plans

Chicago.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor opened its midsummer meeting here Aug. 23 to draft plans for the coming political campaign and to formulate its report to the forthcoming 67th annual convention of the AFL.

Members of the Administrative Committee of Labor's League for Political Education were to meet with the executive council to map out an intensified program of political action.

Plans call for a nationwide drive to get out the labor vote with the objective of defeating large numbers of members of Congress who voted for the Taft-Hartley Act and bringing about the election of Representatives and Senators with more progressive views.

The executive council will review the "do-nothing" record of the 80th Congress with regard to social justice legislation and compare the platform promises of the Democratic and Republican parties with the AFL's own legislative proposals.

Among the outstanding issues to be considered by the executive council are the need for safeguarding world peace through international agreements, the national defense program, the failure of Congress to take effective action to halt inflation, the accumulating evidence that the Taft-Hartley Act must be repealed to save the labor movement from eventual disintegration and the urgent need for an effective housing program.

As usual, the executive council will conduct various hearings during its session. One of the subjects to be taken up is an application for an international union charter for aluminum workers.

It is also expected that the executive council will consider plans for an expanded public relations program by the AFL, including the filming of a movie for general circulation on the story of organized labor and its achievements in this country.

Randolph Says ITU Will Press Fight; Convention Set to Blast Taft's Action

Milwaukee.—The 90th convention of the AFL's International Typographical Union opened here with a firm resolve expressed by its president, Woodruff Randolph, to continue its hard fight against unfair employers seeking to take advantage of the restrictive provisions of the Taft-Hartley law.

Approximately 400 delegates heard Mr. Randolph declare in his keynote address that, if necessary, "strikes and lockouts now in progress" would continue "regardless of size or place, and regardless of time or expenditure."

Mr. Randolph said the union obtained acceptable contracts in New York, Detroit and Chicago commercial shops "only after the ITU had demonstrated that it would and could support local unions such as Chicago and other places that were striking for wages."

"We can supply an unfair employer with enough competition of various kinds to make his unfair operation much less profitable than he calculated when he dispensed with our members," he declared.

"That does not necessarily mean that we will start a newspaper in every jurisdiction where we have a strike or lockout, but it does mean that we can supply the mechanical equipment and the mechanical know-how for the operation of another newspaper where other business men would like to enter the field."

Mr. Randolph said the current strike against Chicago newspapers that began last November had cost $3,471,538 in benefit payments to members up to July 20, or about $434,000 a month. These and expenses of other strikes are financed by assessments of 5 percent of the earnings of working members.

Since the inception of a job-shop strike in Philadelphia, Mr. Randolph said, the union has spent $741,518 for benefits in that city.

He added that the ITU spent $254,350 for benefits in a commercial shop strike in New York City, ended some time ago.

In other action, a resolution was introduced to the convention condemning Senator Robert A. Taft for his recent intervention in legal affairs concerning the union and newspaper publishers. Mr. Taft, it was reported, called for action by government officials to bring contempt of court action against the ITU. At a meeting in his office, attended by Chicago newspaper publishers, the Senator informed NLRB officials that he thought the union should be cited for violations of the injunction against the union handed down last March by Federal Judge Luther M. Swygert.

Pressure for the contempt action has come mainly from Chicago where the newspaper printers have been on strike for nearly 9 months.

ITU's Closed Shop Demand Held Violation of T-H Law

Washington.—Efforts of the AFL's International Typographical Union and its officers to obtain closed shop conditions of employment for its members were held to be violations of the Taft-Hartley law by Arthur Leff, trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board.

At the same time, Mr. Leff declared that there was not sufficient evidence to sustain charges against the union on a half-dozen other counts.

The examiner's report was handed down in a national case brought against the union by the American Newspaper Publishers Association. The report was the fourth issued by NLRB examiners with findings adverse to the union, none of which has been acted upon as yet by the board itself. There are 7 other cases still pending against the union.

Gerhard P. Van Arkel, counsel for the ITU, attacked the differing conclusions reached by Mr. Leff and other NLRB examiners in additional cases based upon similar allegations and evidence. He said:

"Each of these reports has, in most important respects, reached differing and conflicting conclusions.

"It is typical of the confusion bred by the Taft-Hartley Act that no two examiners can agree on its meaning or on the legality of the policies followed by the ITU."

Mr. Leff declared that Robert N. Denham, general counsel for the NLRB, failed to sustain his charges that the union violated the law with respect to "featherbedding," slow-downs, insistence on competency clauses as a basis for hiring, jurisdiction over varitype equipment, picket line clauses, demands for the right to refuse to handle "struck work" and coercion of employes by refusal to bargain.

The examiner recommended that the union and its agents be required to cease "any policy, practice, or course of conduct" designed to cause "employers in the newspaper industry, or any other employers" to discriminate in employment against employes or applicants for employment because they were not members of the ITU or any of its locals.

Included in the conduct which he would forbid was the union's insistence upon the hiring of only union members as foremen and the union's demand for contracts that could be canceled on 60 days' notice. The examiner held that both these demands were part of the union's effort to maintain illegal closed-shop conditions.

IBEW LOCAL AFFILIATE SWEEPS UNION SHOP POLLS

New York.—Local No. 3, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL, has won its first 50 elections under the National Labor Relations Board for union security. The votes have been almost 99 percent in favor of the union shop, according to Harry Van Arsdale, Jr., Local No. 3's business manager.

Out of 3,602 votes cast, the total for union security was 3,532 with 70 voting against. In 27 out of the 50 elections won by Local No. 3, not a single vote was cast against the union shop.

LETTER CARRIERS' UNION BUYS $300,000 IN BONDS

Washington.—The National Association of Letter Carriers announced the purchase of $300,000 worth of Series G U. S. savings bonds during the first half of July.

The transaction, authorized by William C. Doherty, NALC president, was made under a special Treasury Department ruling which permitted purchases of bonds in excess of the normal monthly limit.

The purchase increased the holdings of the union's Mutual Benefit Association to $3,410,000 worth of government securities.

ILGWU RADIO STATION AIDED ELECTION DRIVE

Chattanooga, Tenn.—A radio station owned and operated here by the AFL's International Ladies Garment Workers Union played a big part in labor's successful campaign in the recent primary elections in Tennessee.

Long before the election took place and right up to the time the polls were opened, Station WVUN-FM devoted time for the broadcasting of political rallies sponsored by AFL labor organizations, and appealed to the people of the state to pay their poll taxes and qualify to vote.

That the efforts of WVUN and labor in general helped nominate Estes Kefauver for the Senate, and Dayton Phillips for the House, was attested to by none other than E. H. Crump, Memphis political boss, whose candidates were defeated. Speaking of Kefauver's victory, Crump said, "It is obvious that labor had a field day."

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

LABOR'S GOAL!
To Repeal
Taft-Hartley Law

WILLIAM GREEN, President
WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1948
GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

1948 Convention Call

TO ALL AFFILIATED UNIONS, GREETINGS:

You are hereby notified that, in pursuance of the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor, the Sixty-seventh Convention of the American Federation of Labor will be held in the Hall of Mirrors, Netherland-Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio, beginning at 10:00 o'clock Monday morning, November 15, 1948, and will continue in session from day to day until the business of the Convention shall have been completed.

World War II was ended on V-J Day, August 14, 1945. Hitler, Mussolini and their allies were decisively and definitely defeated. The governments they represented surrendered unconditionally. When this took place working people throughout the world shared with all other classes of people their happiness over the great victory which was won. We thought we saw the dawn of a new day—the termination of wars and the establishment of international peace and security. We felt sure that the United States and its allies, who had fought together and sacrificed together, would quickly unite in reaching agreement upon terms which the defeated nations would be required to meet and in establishing peace and security throughout the world.

As we look at the picture now, three years after the end of World War II, we realize how keen is our disappointment over the failure of those who won the war to agree upon terms of international peace and security. Failure to reach agreement during the period of three years is well-nigh tragic. The hopes within the breasts of the masses of the people which ascended high when the war was won have descended low because of failure on the part of the United Nations to settle one single question within a three-year period. The question is now being asked whether, instead of universal peace, we are facing World War III. The members of the American Federation of Labor insist and demand now, as they have at each convention held since the conclusion of World War II, that an agreement shall be promptly reached which will definitely and irrevocably provide for international peace and guaranteed security.

The enemies of labor have continued their aggressive drive against us through the enactment of anti-labor legislation during the past year. We have met this challenge through the mobilization of our resources, our collective strength, and an unyielding determination to fight with all the power at our command against the attacks which have been made upon us. We are challenging the validity of much of this legislation in the courts. We are refusing to acquiesce in the acceptance of this destructive, hostile legislation. We can and we must bring about the defeat of Members of Congress and the State Legislators who voted to place the legal yoke of bondage around the necks of the working men and women of the nation.

The problem of inflation has become more intensified. It is worse than it was when we met in our Sixty-sixth Convention a year ago. Prices for the necessities of life have risen beyond the point of toleration. Congress failed to deal with the serious housing problem, minimum wage legislation, social security and health insurance, support to education, and legislation for the enjoyment of civil rights by all classes of people.

All this makes it clear that this convention will be called upon to deal with most difficult and serious problems. We must face them heroically and courageously. We must speak directly for the millions of working men and women whom we directly represent and for millions of others whom we will truthfully speak for indirectly. The history of the American Federation of Labor and the record which it has made justifies the conclusion that all of the problems, national and international, economic and social, which will be presented to the convention will be dealt with in a constructive, courageous and inspiring way.

WILLIAM GREEN,
President.

GEORGE MEANY,
Secretary-Treasurer.

LABOR DAY MESSAGE

By I. M. ORNBURN
Secretary-Treasurer, Union Label Trades Department

The material gains and achievements of the American Federation of Labor are annually recorded in the official report to the convention but the soul of the American labor movement is seldom mentioned. It is among our own members that the real union spirit can be found. It is the same pioneer trade-union fervor that built the American Federation of Labor from its very foundation. It is a guiding influence in any constructive policy.

In every campaign for the union label, shop card and service button and also in our Union Industries Shows the Union Label Trades Department tries to crystallize this enthusiasm of loyal A. F. of L. union members by demonstrating the pride they take in their skilled craftsmanship and by the high quality of their products and services. When this spirit is captured in some activity it is usually an outstanding success.

In order to retain our selfrespect, the good will of our employers and fellow workers, and the good graces of the American public, there must be a revival of this spirit. We must ask ourselves, "what can I do for my union?" instead of "what can I get out of my union?" This spirit is dominant among those voluntary workers for the union label cause. At the present time there is a growing demand for union label goods and union services caused chiefly by union label leaders in every locality who get a thrill in working for our great cause.

In our union label crusades we achieve the original union spirit through a home-to-home drive among union families stimulating them to buy only union label goods and to use only union services. Other manifestations can be found in a union label week, a local directory of union firms and many activities sponsored by a union label league or a union label committee of the central labor unions, local unions or a women's auxiliary.

All of these drives can be carried on in addition to the general campaigns now being sponsored by the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, national and international unions, union label leagues, and state federations of labor. Every branch of the A. F. of L. is an integral part of the all-out effort to urge members to patronize only those firms that display the union label, shop card or service button.

Like evangelists, live leaders in every community can induce others to "hit" the union label trail. The union spirit will get realistic results. It will retain the opportunities that America offers to us and our children. When any institutional movement neglects this psychological element—the spirit of the cause—it ceases to be truly great.

VA ACTS TO SIMPLIFY JOB TRAINING PLANS

Washington.—The Veterans Administration said it had combed some of the snarls out of the registration procedure for the GI bill's education and training program.

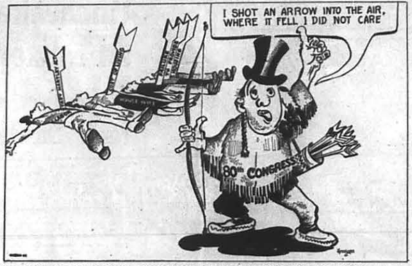
Most important of the new regulations, going into effect Sept. 1, the agency said, was a requirement that veterans file certificates of eligibility at least a month before entering training.

In the past, veterans have filed the certificates at about the same time that they entered school or job-training. As a result, their claims for subsistence allowance, and other papers concernin- them, frequently reached VA officials ahead of the certificates.

"This meant we would often get material or queries about a veteran before we had any record or file on him at all," an official explained.

"You can imagine the confusion that resulted. Under the new system, a VA claim number will be assigned as each certificate is received, and we will be ready in advance to handle the veteran's claim promptly and accurately."

The agency also is speeding and simplifying training administration by consolidating four forms in the new certificate of eligibility, and by giving each veteran two copies of his certificate for presenting to the school or training institution. Heretofore schools and institutions have had to copy the various forms themselves.


I SHOT AN ARROW INTO THE AIR, WHERE IT FELL I DID NOT CARE
80th CONGRESS

Sec. Tobin Assails Taft-Hartley Law; Holds Legislation 'Blow at Unionism'

Washington.—The Taft-Hartley law was assailed as a "blow at unionism" by the new Secretary of Labor, Maurice J. Tobin, at his first press conference held since he was sworn into office.

Singling out the law's ban on the closed shop and the prohibition against the expenditures of union funds in political campaigns for special criticism, he declared that the statute generally was "impractical" and conducive to a "lot of bootlegging and dealing under the table."

In his discussion of the Taft-Hartley law Mr. Tobin conceded that he did not object to its every provision, saying that "not even the most radical labor leader would do that," but he advocated a substitute law "along the lines" of the Democratic platform.

"The closed shop has been in existence in the United States for more than a century," he said, "and was relied upon by employers as well as employes to create stable conditions of employment and to obtain and maintain an adequate supply of qualified workers in skilled trades and occupations.

"Under the Taft-Hartley law, the closed shop is declared illegal and cannot be contracted for by those employers who desire it and consider it mutually advantageous."

Even the union shop is not permitted, he added, until both sides have submitted to the "cumbersome arrangements of the act and an election of employes is conducted at public expense."

On his other specific point of criticism of the law he stated:

"A union could not even pay for a hall for the purpose of conducting a meeting to discuss candidates or issues in national elections. A court has held that a union cannot buy newspaper advertising space or radio time for this purpose under the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act."

Mr. Tobin announced that he planned to confer with the major labor leaders of the country as quickly as possible. He indicated that he would fill in less than a month the vacancies in his department. The posts of undersecretary and of one of two assistant secretaries are vacant.

TRUMAN SEES T-H LAW WORKING AS PREDICTED

Washington. — President Truman declared that the Taft-Hartley Act was working out just as he predicted in a veto message.

He made the remark at his press conference when asked if he agreed with Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin, who said that the Taft-Hartley law was promoting "bootlegging and under-the-table dealing" between labor and management.

TRUMAN, TOBIN PLAN LABOR DAY SPEECHES

Washington. — President Truman will deliver a major address before a Labor Day rally in Detroit sponsored by the AFL's Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor and other labor groups. In addition, Mr. Truman will make speeches in 5 other Michigan cities on Labor Day. His tour will include Grand Rapids, Flint, Pontiac, Lansing, and Hamtramck.

The President's new Secretary of Labor, Maurice J. Tobin, will journey to Akron, Ohio, where he will participate with AFL President William Green in a Labor Day celebration to be held in Summit Beach Park. The rally is sponsored jointly by the AFL's Central Labor Union in Akron and the Tri-County Building Trades Council.

The Labor Day rallies will be broadcast over a nation-wide radio network.

Green Hits Law In Address Before Photo-Engravers

Baltimore.—AFL President William Green renewed his bitter attacks on the Taft-Hartley law and called for the defeat of all members of Congress who voted for its passage in an address delivered before the convention of the International Photo-Engravers Union.

In urging labor to ignore party designations in voting against those who passed what he termed this "reprehensible, indefensible, antilabor measure," Mr. Green said:

"Surely we're not so devoted to party loyalty that we're going to support men who voted against labor."

"If we go to the ballot box in November and vote together as we strike together," he said, "the men who voted for the reprehensible Taft-Hartley law will not go back to Congress."

He mentioned the recent defeat of Senator Stewart in a Tennessee primary as indicative of a trend against the Taft-Hartley law, asserting this was a major reason for Stewart's defeat.

"We appealed to them on our knees not to pass it," he continued, "but they were deaf to our appeal. They said 'no' to us. Will labor say 'yes' to them?"

"We will be rebels until the Taft-Hartley law is stricken from the statutes of the United States of America."

Green hinted at the possibility of new wage demands saying, "There is much yet due us. We have not reached the maximum. The workers of America should share more widely in the national income."

The union head said the AFL at present has a paid-up membership of 8,000,000 members.

Before Mr. Green's speech, the entire list of the international officers of the union were renominated without opposition. They include Edward J. Volz, of New York, president, and Matthew Woll, first vice-president, and also a vice-president of the AFL.

In other action, the convention heard committee reports and pledged their support to Labor's League for Political Education, a political arm of the AFL.

11,435 WORKERS WIN $589,163 IN BACK PAY

Philadelphia.—A total of $589,163 in back wages, involving various violations, was paid to 11,435 employes in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia during the fiscal year ending June 30, it was announced by Frank J. G. Dorsey, regional director of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Division, U. S. Department of Labor.

Violations of the 40-cent minimum wage were found in 240 of the 3,743 plants inspected in the area, Dorsey said, involving 611 workers. Violation of one or more provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act were found in 3,491 of the plants inspected, he announced.

New Interest Reported For Daily Labor Paper

By DON BRESNAHAN
Chicago Correspondent for AFL News Service

Chicago.—They are talking about a daily labor newspaper in Chicago again. And the talk, observers agree, is stronger than ever before.

Some say it started with the printers strike, when the International Typographical Union protested that it was not receiving fair treatment at the hands of the daily press. Others say it has always been here because Chicago sorely needs another newspaper, and why not a liberal, labor newspaper?

Probably, both sources have contributed to the conjecture that is filling the air in this city of 3,500,000 people and only four daily newspapers.

Perhaps the talk, too, has been spurred on by labor's new awakening to the value of public relations. Labor leaders, a little late but not too late, have come to realize that they must advertise their unions as attractively as managements advertise their products, their plants and offices, and themselves.

Some labor leaders of Chicago, whose counsel cannot be discredited, have voiced the opinion that a daily labor newspaper in this city or anywhere else, cannot be successful. They contend that the project is huge, the cost almost prohibitive, with the intangible of public acceptance and support the largest obstacle to be overcome.

Others acknowledge the correctness of much of this testimony, but continue to plan, to guess, to hope, and to gather facts which might indicate that the time is ripe for something more than just planning.

That Chicago needs another daily newspaper is a fact no one questions. Veteran Chicago newspapermen discuss its need whenever they congregate, and a good many of the malcontents voice their willingness to "make a change" if the opportunity arises.

Chicago's newest and most hard-luck paper, The Chicago Sun, is pointed out as the strongest argument against launching a new daily newspaper. Critics of the idea say the Sun had everything in its favor, strong financial backing, one of the best editorial staffs in the country, and the opportune time. Yet the Sun failed, at a cost of many millions of dollars to its founder, Marshall Field.

This, they say, is reason enough to dispel any talk of launching another daily newspaper for some time. And especially a labor daily.

But those who were close to the old Sun staunchly maintain that it was killed by only one weapon: bad management.

They contend that a well-run liberal newspaper would sell and sell and sell in Chicago.

The people of Chicago do want another newspaper, that is obvious to every one.

But the daily newspapermen themselves sound this warning: "If you are going to start a daily labor newspaper in this city, don't do it halfway. If it's a slip-shod job run on a shoestring it will never go over."

Those who favor the idea of the daily labor newspaper here will not be disillusioned. And already they have sounded out some of the daily newspapermen, many of whom they feel would be anxious to work on such a new undertaking.

AFL HOTEL EMPLOYES WIN INSURANCE PLAN

Washington.—Over 6,000 hotel workers here won wage increases and a group insurance plan under terms of a new contract negotiated by the local joint executive board of the AFL's Hotel and Restaurant Employes and Bartenders International Union.

Hailing the insurance clause, Samuel Levine, union attorney, said it marks the first time group insurance has been included in a contract on such a scale in this area."

ITU Convention Calls on Pres. Truman To Probe 'Interference' by Senator Taft

Milwaukee.—In a resolution approved unanimously by the delegates to its 90th convention, the AFL's International Typographical Union called upon President Truman to investigate "unwarranted interference" by Senator Robert A. Taft in the executive branch of the federal government.

The resolution referred to a report in the New York Times that Senator Taft had summoned representatives of the general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board to his office and, in the presence of Chicago newspaper publishers, called upon them to press contempt of court action against the Typographical Union for alleged violation of an injunction.

The resolution, adopted unanimously by standing vote, said Senator Taft had attacked the "fundamental principle that the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the government shall be independent." It also called upon Governor Dewey, the Republican presidential nominee, to "disavow the high-handed methods of Senator Taft."

Another unanimously approved resolution denounced Robert N. Denham, general counsel for the National Labor Relations Board, for his "unethical attitude and actions" and "obvious prejudices" against the union.

The anti-Denham resolution charged that he "has taken upon himself the functions of prosecutor of the ITU instead of those of impartial counsel of the NLRB."

In other action, the ITU backed the position of its president, Woodruff Randolph, in refusing to file non-Communist affidavits and financial data required by the Taft-Hartley law. Such action is necessary in order to qualify the union to use the facilities of the National Labor Relations Board.

The issue arose in a resolution pointing out that the ITU was not qualified to prosecute employers for unfair labor practices and directing the officers to correct this by filing the necessary documents. This was probably the best defined issue dividing the two political parties in the ITU, the Progressive and the Independents, in this convention.

The Independents, opposing President Randolph, were not able to stir up anything resembling a revolt in the convention and the resolution was rejected clearly in a voice vote.

Defending his position, Mr. Randolph said: "Using the board is not good for the union." He said the legal theory of the Taft-Hartley procedure was that "if you accept the government's protection you accept the burdens of the law. The benefits are non-existent. The burdens are heavy indeed."

Mr. Randolph said he was unwilling to indulge in what he called "collective begging, instead of collective bargaining."

Magazine Exposes NAM Anti-Labor Propaganda

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
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New York.—"Business Week" snapped back a realistic and definitive reply to the NAM propagandists who have been shouting up and down the land that the trend of NLRB elections under the Taft-Hartley law indicates that American workers are cooling towards unions.

"This is heady stuff, which some employers are anxious to believe," says "Business Week," a Big Business editorial spokesman. "What are the facts?"

The magazine draws on these figures:

Wagner Act Period (1936-47)

No. of elections held	39,969	Total votes cast	7,677,135
Won by unions	81.4%	For unions	6,145,834 (81.1%)
Lost by unions	18.6%	Against unions	1,531,301 (19.9%)

Taft-Hartley Period (Aug. 1947-June 1948)

No. of elections held	2,138	Total votes cast	211,251
Won by unions	73.6%	For unions	158,070 (74.8%)
Lost by unions	26.4%	Against unions	53,181 (25.2%)

The "no union" vote has risen from 19.9 percent during the Wagner Act period to 25.2 percent during the Taft-Hartley Act period for which figures are available.

"The statistician might duck an argument," says "Business Week," "by maintaining that the data are not properly comparable; that T-H figures are still too small to show much. Yet a conclusion has been drawn and it appears to be a wrong one."

The conclusion which the magazine says is being spread "by some business organizations and their spokesmen (is) that the Taft-Hartley Act offers the American wage earner a new chance to express himself on unionism; that National Labor Relations Board figures show that he has developed quite a coolness toward unions."

"Business Week" takes a year-by-year view of the Wagner Act period which it divides by the end of the war into two parts. It shows elections won by unions:

1945—82.9 percent.
1946—79.5 percent.
1947—(before T-H)—75.1 percent.

"The 73.6 percent shown under the T-H law seems only to be a continuation of a trend," says the magazine.

The individual antiunion vote by years:

1945—20.9 percent.
1946—24.2 percent.

—"not much different from the 25.2 percent under the present law."

"This trend is readily understandable," says "Business Week." "Unions swept through the easy-to-organize industries early. They are recruiting now in areas where resistance is tougher. It does not mean that the sentiment of the workers has changed. Different workers are now being polled."

The article points out that the efforts of left-wing unions unable to qualify under the anti-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley law are in part responsible for "whatever rise there may be in the 'antiunion' sentiment which NLRB figures are taken to reflect."

This is due to the fact that Communist unions and locals, unable to get on the NLRB ballot, have told its followers to vote "no union" in order to argue later if the "no union" vote won a majority that the Communist union, having urged a "no union" vote, was therefore properly the chosen collective bargaining representative.

"In short, if the T-H law," the article concludes, "is making anti-unionists, NLRB's experience doesn't show it."

AFL ELECTRICAL WORKERS WIN BARGAINING ELECTION

Chicago.—The AFL Electrical Workers was selected as official bargaining agent for employes of the Cory Co., Chicago glass coffee maker firm, which has been strikebound since last November.

The company failed to reach agreements to end the strike with the CIO United Electrical Workers Union, which held a majority of the employes for the last 7 years. The union refused to enter into a new contract which contained a no-strike clause.

The election, held by the National Labor Relations Board last April, showed only 2 of the ballots cast opposed the AFL union. The workers decided to change their affiliation after several stormy incidents, one of which resulted in the arrest of 182 pickets.

CLARENCE C. COULTER DIES; ONCE HEADED RETAIL CLERKS

Lafayette, Ind.—Clarence C. Coulter, secretary emeritus of the AFL's Retail Clerks International Association, died at St. Elizabeth Hospital here, after an extended illness. He was 66.

A well-known figure in the American Federation of Labor and the American labor movement in general for a half century, Mr. Coulter became affiliated with the Retail Clerks International Association in 1901, through its subordinate Local Union 262, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Coulter held every office within the gift of that local union, and in 1915 was elected a vice-president of the RCIA.

Mr. Coulter's eastern activities ended with his election as president of the Retail Clerks International Association, AFL, in 1925. He served in that office for a year before filling the vacancy created by the death of International Secretary-Treasurer H. J. Conway. He continued in that office until illness forced him to relinquish his active duties.

AFL GLASS MOLD-MAKERS WIN 7½% PAY BOOST

Atlantic City, N. J.—A 7½ percent hourly wage increase was won for 1,500 workers in the mold-making department of 72 glass companies in negotiations that ended here.

The increase was agreed upon by representatives of the AFL's American Flint Glass Workers Union and the labor relations committee of the Glass Containers Manufactuers Institute.

Harry H. Cook of Toledo, Ohio, union president, said the wage increase averaged 13 cents an hour. The previous wage scale for the workers that expired today ranged from $1.45 to $1.92 an hour.